

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, insert -- BACKGROUND -- between the title and line 1.

On page 1, line 26 insert -- SUMMARY -- .

On page 3, line 31, insert -- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS -- .

On page 4, line 15, insert -- DETAILED DESCRIPTION -- .

On page 12, replace the abstract starting on line 1 with the following rewritten abstract:

An apparatus for preparing coffee includes a holder (4) provided with an access opening (24) for placing a pouch filled with a product to be extracted into the holder (4); a cover (34) for closing and releasing the access opening (24); a clamping ~~means~~ arrangement (70) for pressing the holder (4) and cover (34) towards each other when the cover (34) closes off the access opening (24) of the holder (4); and a closing ~~means~~ arrangement (80) for retaining the cover (34) and the clamping ~~means~~ arrangement (70) in position when the cover (34) closes off the access opening (24) of the holder (4). The closing ~~means~~ arrangement (80) ~~are~~ is mechanically coupled to the clamping ~~means~~ arrangement (70) for bringing the clamping ~~means~~ arrangement (70) from a non-clamping condition into a clamping condition by manually operating the closing ~~means~~ arrangement (80) from a first defined position to a second defined position.

Fig. 1